

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

Please substitute the attached replacement sheets for Figures 2A-2B, 3A-3B, 4A-4C, 5A-5B, 6A-6B, and 7A-7C of the drawings as originally filed.

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of this application, as amended.

The drawings and specification have been amended to address the alleged informalities. Claims 1-8 are pending in this application, with Claim 1 being independent.

Claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Boersma (US 5,201,545) and Pearce (US 2,067,284). Without acceding to the outstanding rejections, Claim 1 has been amended to recite, inter alia, a coupling structure for coupling a pair of torque transmitting members interposed in a shaft, the torque transmitting members being adapted to transmit a torque through an elastic member and a pin, with one of the torque transmitting members having a pin insertion hole formed with a large diameter hole portion, a stepped receiving portion and a small diameter hole portion. When torque to be transmitted is low, the torque is transmitted through the elastic member, and when torque to be transmitted is high, the torque is transmitted through the pin.

The applied references neither disclose nor suggest a coupling structure for coupling a pair of torque transmitting members interposed in a shaft as currently recited in amended Claim 1. Note, for example, that the structure in Boersma does not have a pin insertion hole

with both a large diameter portion and a small diameter portion located on the same torque transmitting member, as currently recited in amended Claim 1. In Pearce, torque is transmitted through an elastic member (column 2, lines 45-47), but not through a pin as in Applicants' claimed invention.

Accordingly, independent Claim 1, at least as presently amended, is patentable over Boersma and Pearce. Claim 1 is therefore allowable over the applied references. Claims 2-8 depend from Claim 1 and are allowable for at least the same reasons as Claim 1.

In view of the amendments and remarks presented herein, it is respectfully urged that the outstanding rejections be withdrawn and that this application now be passed to issue.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 (XA-10281) any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any

extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been separately requested, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment: Replacement Sheets and Substitute Specification